

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to replace pending claims 1-10 with new claims 11-33 prior to examination. The new claims are supported by the original disclosure. No new matter has been added.

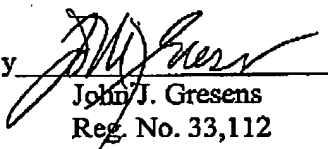
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No. 33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 22, 2004

By 

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JJG:JAL